

Rockford Ills
Nov 2nd /88

My dear Mr Watson

Your note re last
summer about my doing
the salaries for your revised
ed. of the Gray Manual - and
you specified June 1st as the
time when the work should
be finished - Now if this
date really and truly represents
the last day of grace - the best
I can do for you will be
an automatic performance - but
I assumed that there would be
no delay beyond you can
write instead January 31st I
shall hope to do the work con

amore.

My plans for the early winter have been all upset - and with heart and mind otherwise absorbed I feel an almost insurmountable disinclination to the doing right now of what under more favorable circumstances would be simply a labor of love. Still the outcome might not be so very different after all - the heavy heart or the lighter heart might not show in such a trifling thing - there are three or four species to be added - two names to be changed - and some characters added to Mr Carey's descriptions. The importance of which was not fully appreciated in his day - Also a

Change is required in grouping
the species - but not a wholesale
change - and furthermore I
should retain as far as possible
the very wording of the descriptions
as they stand -

I said something to you about
sending me the Howard Sub. Papers
for a thorough revision - but at
the time I wrote I was so interested
in the study of Millers I "could
not see straight" - So far as I
am personally concerned I really
feel now quite indifferent -
- then it seemed to me very
desirable that certain determinations
of mine - not dated - and doubtless
conflicting - with no clue to which
might be the later and better

judgment should be corrected -
- but whether I should make
the confession with shame I
do not know / I have really
caused the case very much
about the matter - one way or
another - The specimens I have
in hand are all safe and
will be boxed up and returned
when I get at such work -
- when flying snow gives me
my winter's season of leisure
and opportunity for study -

Very truly yours
Wm. L. Webb